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## EPA Bremerton Brownfield:

On Saturday two of us walked four streets in the near field impact area, and out of approximately 65 residences, we increased our group from 3 to 11. There were no residences contacted that expressed disagreement. We will continue to grow our group and expand to other streets within the designated area provided on the map. We estimate a total of 300 residences in the Brownfield impact area. As we work we are building the contacts list database.

The neighborhood is low income and likely one of the lowest income in Bremerton. The percentage of registered voters is very low. On our walk we questioned if this was a possible reason local politicians have forsaken us?

Our goal is to make the major oil and gas companies pay for the clean up and recover monetary damages for the property owners and residences impacted. Government should not have to pay unless, by law, it is proven there was lack of service on a negligent level.

Now is a great time for the City of Bremerton and the Federal Government to be 'good sided'.

We need copies of the soil sample results that were recently done. Do you know the environmental contactor that did the work? These samples are required to be given to the Washington State Department of Ecology and are open to the public. If there is a designator so we can find these in Olympia it will help us plan on or future course of actions.

Thank you,  
Greg Stewart  
Member  
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253-627-5597 FAX



USEPA SF



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August 9, 2008

RE: "Properties bordering between NAVAL Street, 13<sup>th</sup> Street, OHIO Street and PUGET SOUND within this area an EPA Brownfield (formerly called a Super Fund Site)."

Dear Residence:

As a neighboring property owner at 1701 Thompson, I wanted to provide information to you about a long term pollution issue. It is possible that pollution has depressed your property values. This is because houses within the boundary, as shown by Kitsap County Auditor's, have lower property values than those in other areas. If you receive this flyer your property is within the boundaries.

You may not be aware, but according to a Phase I environmental study provided the City of Bremerton Public Works and the Kitsap County Assessor's Office, during the 1920's and into the 1990's, the property along the water front was first used as a coal gasification plant by Western Gas (Currently Cascade Natural Gas). Later used by major oil companies such as ARCO (Currently BP), Texaco and others as bulk oil storage terminals, with pipelines to a dock which barge loads of fuel off loaded product.

The property was later abandoned by these entities, and a comprehensive pollution site assessment was never conducted. To date, these major oil and gas companies have not been held to their legal responsibilities to clean the property.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the City of Bremerton and a property owner gained a Brownfield status for part of the subject site. Brownfield is the name for which the EPA formerly called a Super Fund Site. For those that remember, Love Canal was a Super Fund.

Designating a Brownfield is serious matter and admission that pollution surrounds or is adjacent to our properties. Even though it is likely that pollution exists beyond the initial Brownfield declared area, the City nor the EPA has to date been willing to investigate further, even though there is knowledge that oil and gas companies operated outside the Brownfield designated site.

If the pollution is not fully cleaned up, all of our properties and their values will remain in jeopardy. For example, my 1701 Thompson, which was formerly owned by Western Gas and ARCO was never investigated. The property contained over 12 large bulk fuel tanks and underground piping that went across several properties to Puget Sound. Currently, there is no interest or activity by the EPA or City to investigate.

First, would you be interested to join together for the purpose of keeping informed? If yes, please fill out the questions below, or email me. From there we can form a web page which would allow us to share information between ourselves staying apprised of the facts and status of our efforts. As a group, we may be able to accomplish more than as individuals. Since the subject properties have been environmentally controversial for



individuals. Since the subject properties have been environmentally controversial for over 20 years, now is the time to act because we may make a difference in ensuring the clean up is complete and done properly.

Second, because of alleged inaction, gross misconduct and failure to provide service, some government entities, major oil companies, and gas companies may be liable to us for losses. To be discussed among those interested is also an issue of a possible conflict of interest by persons involved with cleaning the site, both at the City and higher levels.

There are two other people in the neighborhood other than myself currently involved and we would like your support.

If you are interested in gaining more information on this issue from a newly formed neighborhood group for both renters and landowners, to which will be organized democratically, by those interested, please fill out the following:

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Rent / Lease \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner \_\_\_\_\_

Phone or email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please keep my information private and confidential \_\_\_\_\_ (yes / no)

Thank you for your time. Please email or Fax the response back at 253-627-5597, [gmstewart@allaura.com](mailto:gmstewart@allaura.com) or mail to the work address below. I will keep you informed on the issues, and if there is an interest find a meeting place in Bremerton to discuss possible course of actions for the purpose of encouraging site clean-up, improvement of the neighborhood including road and sidewalk damage caused by historical oil tanker activity over the years, and recovery of any personal loss you may have due pollution.

Sincerely,

*Gregory M Stewart*

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